(*c*) whether the necessary bridges and culverts will be constructed so that the Public road now under construction from Kulathur to Akkulam be connected with the Anayara road; and

(*d*) whether the Kulathur road may be extended to Perumthurai *via* Kazhakkoottam?

HON'BLE MR. A. ATCHUTHAN: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes; this is being investigated.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) No.

Paddy Production Survey Officers.

508. MR. N. P. VARGHIS (*Moovattupuzha I—General*): Will the Honourable Minister for Land be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any fresh staff have been appointed for Paddy Production Survey;

(*b*) The number of officers and Accountants appointed for Paddy Production Survey;

(*c*) The date of their appointment and the period for which they are appointed;

(*d*) whether the paddy production survey officers submitted any report of their work; and

(*e*) when is the Food Production Survey expected to be finished?

HON'BLE MR. K. M. KORAH: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Officers 30
Accountants 418

(*c*) (i) Officers 4-3-1948/21-7-1123
Accountants Edavom and Mithunam 1123.
(ii) Till the end of 1123 in the first instance. Proposed to be extended for the year 1124.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Before the end of Kanni 1124.

Writing of Text Books.

509. MR. N. P. VARGHIS: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government has appointed a Committee for writing text books for the Primary, Middle and High School classes;

(*b*) what is the criterion that Government adopted in choosing these writers;

(*c*) whether Government is aware that experienced and efficient teachers of the respective subjects in the Education Department have been left out;

(*d*) whether Government is aware that standard books on the various subjects approved by the Text Book Committee are available for sale;

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(*e*) is not Government aware that it is more advisable to select the best book on each subject and then prescribe it than delegating a Committee to write text books;

(*f*) is Government aware that if open competition is allowed, it will facilitate the production of better text books than by giving the monopoly of writing them to a few;

(*g*) is the Government aware that there was a similar proposal for writing text books by the Government of Madras, and that it was subsequently dropped in view of the volume of public opinion against it;

(*h*) whether this practice is obtained in any other part of India;

(*i*) will Government be pleased to reconsider this policy of entrusting text book writing to a body selected by Department?

HON'BLE MR. T. M. VARGHESE: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Proficiency in the subject as well as experience in teaching and writing books.

(*c*) Those who have been selected are most competent for the purpose. All the efficient teachers of the Department are not required for writing books.

(*d*) No. Suitable books prepared according to the new syllabus are not available.

(*e*) This method is followed in regard to subjects for which suitable books published by private firms and authors are available.

(*f*) No. This may be so in regard to non-detailed and similar other books; but in regard to books on subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, etc. which are to be newly prepared in Malayalam and Tamil for the first time, as these languages are made the media of instruction, the result will be far from being satisfactory if they are allowed to be prepared by private agencies during the transitional period.

(*g*) No. This Government has no information.

(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) In view of the answers given to (b) to (f) this does not arise.

Sales Tax.

510. MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU (*Karunagapally II—General*): Will the Honourable Minister for Income Tax be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the administration of sales tax is to be entrusted to the Excise Department;

(*b*) may I know whether Government are aware that the same is handled by separate departments in Provinces and the Income tax departments in States?

HON'BLE MR. C. KESAVAN: (*a*) Government have not taken any decision in the matter.

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